



U.S. Department of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

On July 1, 2014, a large propane cylinder belonging to a mobile food truck operator in Philadelphia, PA, ruptured and exploded, resulting in two deaths and 11 injuries—one person remains in critical condition. In light of this serious incident, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is taking action to address the hazards associated with the use of propane cylinders in the mobile food truck industry to ensure the safety of its employees and the public.

Many food trucks rely on propane tanks as a means to prepare food. What you may not know is that both propane (Class 2.1, Flammable Gas), and the cylinder in which it is stored, are regulated by the Hazardous Material Regulations (HMR). **Cylinders containing flammable gases are required to fully conform to the packaging, qualification, maintenance, and use requirements of the HMR.**

Our goal is to raise awareness of this important safety concern with the mobile food truck industry, specifically, the hazards of using poor condition or out-of-test propane cylinders. We encourage you to inspect your cylinders on a regular basis to ensure they are safe for use.

We will host two 30 minute informational webinars on Thursday, **August 14, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. (EST) and 2:00 p.m. (EST)**. These sessions will provide you information on:

1. How to check propane cylinders to determine if they are safe;
2. What to do if your cylinder is out-of-test;
3. General safety tips for using propane cylinders.

To register for either of the two webinars, please click on the link below. If you have questions on how to register, please contact Aaron Mitchell at (202) 366-0579 or aaron.mitchell@dot.gov.

<https://www150.livemeeting.com/lrs/1100004049/Registration.aspx?pageName=hrqdggh840km7bxvd>

Sincerely,

William Schoonover
Deputy, Associate Administrator Field Operations
U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration